TWO

SPEECHES

IN

PARLIAMENT:

The one

Concerning *Religion*, and fit men to be choſen for the ASSEMBLIE.

The other

Concerning a *Weſt Indie* Aſſociation at a Committee of the whole Houſe in the *Parliament*, 21. *Iacobi*.

By Sir Benjamin Rudyerd, *Knight*, *Surveyour of His Majeſties Court of Wards and Liveries.*

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Mr. SPEAKER:

GOD hath wonderfully *bleſsed* Us this *Parliament* in *Diſcoveries*, and *Deliverances*, in *Prevailings* and *Succeſses*: what manner of *Men* therfore ought we to be, in *Acknowledgment* and *Thankfulneſse*? And let us return a *Reall* concreate *Thankfulneſse*, expreſs'd in *Action*.

We have often *ſaid* and *profeſs'd*, that *Religion*, as it is the *chief*, ſo it ought to be our *firſt buſineſse*; yet many other have gotten *Precedense* of it, we have hitherto made but a ſmall *Progreſsion*.

Wherfore M. *Speaker*, let us not now ſlack to proceed in it, with *Sobriety*, *Wiſdome*, *Charity*, untill wee have ſetled it in a *ſolid grounded peaceable* way, ſutable to the *quality*, and *importance* of the *Cauſe*; when *That* is done, every *thing* elſe will be done the *better* for it.

Concerning fit men to be choſen for the Aſsemblie.

Mr. Speaker, I am glad we are comming towards *Religion*, to bind up the looſe ſcattered *Pieces* of it in an *Orderly regular* Government.

The *Maſter-piece* of this great work will be the Election of fit *Agents*; *wiſe*, *learned*, *unbyaſſ'd* Men, ſuch as have ſhewed themſelves deſirous of *Reformation*, in the *Government*, in the *Lyturgie*, willing to remove whatſoever may offend or ſcruple weak and tender *Conſciences*. Men not *hide-bound* in their *opinions*, Lovers of *Peace*, more then of *themſelves*. *Peace* is *Tranquillitatis Ordo*, and *Order* is the *ſoul* of outward *things*, it keeps them *quiet* and *clear* from *juſling* and *interfeering* one with another.

A man may bee a very *good* and *able* Paſtor of a *Pariſh*, a very *learned* and *painfull* Lecturer to a great *Congregation*, and yet not ſo fit for this *active*, *extenſive* Imployment. For, a man may be *Learned* with another mans *Learning*, but he muſt be wiſe with his own *Wiſdome*. Therfore, they ſhould not be *narrow*, *ſhady*, *ſpeculative* men, but rather, men of *large*, *ſober* practicall *underſtanding*, *prudent* men. *Prudence* is, *Rerum Agibilium Ratio*, the Reaſon and Rule of things which are to be *Acted*.

Wherfore, *M. Speaker*, It behoves us to be exactly *carefull*, that we chuſe ſuch men as may give *countenance* and *authority* to the work, elſe we ſhall weaken and hazard the whole *Frame*. For mine own part, I will take no *Exceptions* againſt any, but leave them wholly upon the *Conſciences* and *Judgments of their Chooſers*.

My

My humble *Motion* is, that after this *long-desired*, and *long-delayed Reformation*, we may now *all of us* joyn as one *Man*, for the *Peace* of *Jerusalem*, and the *Israel* of *God*; So shall we prosper, because we love it.

The second Speech, concerning a West-Indy Association, at a Committee of the whole House of Parliament.

Sir Dudley Digs,

I Do professe, that as my *Affection*, my *Reason*, and my *Judgment*, go strongly with the *scope* and *drift* of this Proposition; so shall a good part of my *poor fortune*, when it comes to *Execution*.

For to my *understanding*, there was never propounded in *Parliament*, a *design* more proper for this Kingdom, nor of more pregnant *advantage* to it, whether we consider the *Nature* of our *situation*, or the quality of our *Enemies Forces*.

As we are an *Iland*, it concerns our very *being* to have store of *ships* to defend us, and also our *well-being* by their *Trade* to enrich us.

This *Association* for the *West Indies*, when it shall

be regulated and eſtabliſhed by *Act* of *Parliament*, and therby ſecured from the *violence* and *injury* of any intruding hand, it will certainly give many men *encouragement* and *confidence*, voluntarily to bring in large and liberall contributions, towards ſo *noble*, ſo *profitable* an *Enterpriſe*. So that in ſhort time, we ſhall ſee many new *ſhips* built, many brave men imployed, and enabled for the ſervice of their *Country*, none of this *money* ſhall be carried out of the *Kingdome*, but laid out for *ſhipping*, which is the *defence* of it, and beſtowed upon our own men, who muſt be fed and maintained, though they ſtay at *home*. For this, we ſhall reap the fruit of whatſoever benefit *Plantation*, *Trafficke*, or *Purchaſe* can procure us, beſides *honour* and *ſecurity*.

Now, let us a little conſider the *Enemy* we are to encounter, the King of *Spain*. They are not his great *Territories* which make him ſo *powerfull*, and ſo troubleſome to all *Chriſtendome*. For it is very well known, that *Spain* it ſelf is but weak in *men*, and barren of *Naturall Commodities*. As for his other *Territories*, they lye *divided* and *aſunder*, which is a *weakneſſe* in its ſelf; beſides, they are held by *force*, and *maintained* at an extraordinary charge. Inſomuch, as although he be a great *King*, yet is he like the *great Gyant*, who was ſaid to have 100 *hands*, but he had

had 50 *bellies* to feed, ſo that ratably, he had no more hands then another *man*.

No Sir, they are his *Mines* in the *Weſt Indies*, which miniſter *fuell* to feed his vaſt ambitious *deſire* of univerſall *Monarchy*: It is the *money* he hath from thence, which makes him able to *levie*, and *pay Souldiers* in all *places*; and to keep an Army continually on foot, ready to *invade* and *endanger* his Neighbours.

So that we have no other way, but to endeavour to *cut* him up at *root*, and ſeek to *impeach*, or to *ſupplant* him in the *Weſt Indies*. By part of which courſe, that *famous Queen of moſt glorious memory*, had heretofore almoſt brought him on his knees. And this our undertaking (*if it pleaſe God to bleſſe it*) muſt needs effect it ſooner and quicker: the *whole body* of the *Kingdome* being *united* and *concurring* in a perpetuall ſupply to this *action*, ſo that he will have no *free time* given him to *reſt*.

Moreover, this will be a means not only to *ſave* but to *fill* His Majeſties Coffers, enabling the *people* to give him *liberally*, and *often*; the *Kings ſhips* will have little to do, but to *guard* the *Coaſts*, for the *Sea-war* will chiefly be made at the *charge* of the *ſubiect*.

Thus, (Sir *Dudley Digs*) I doubt not but that in ſhort time, both *King* and *people* ſhall be *ſafe* at *home*, and *feared abroad*.

To

To conclude, I ſhall be very *glad* to hear any man make *Objections* againſt this *Deſigne*, ſo that he do it with an intention to *refine* and *perfect* the work; but if any ſhall ſpeak *againſt* it with a mind to *hinder* and *deſtroy* it, I muſt intreat him to *pardon* me, if I do ſcarce think him to be a good *Engliſh-man*.

FINIS.